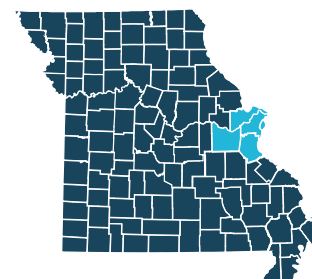


ST. LOUIS REGION

MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

JANUARY 2025



Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on its outlook over the next decade. Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and current average wages. Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

The St. Louis region is projected to have more than 134,700 annual job openings through 2032. The vast majority (96%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations have higher wages and growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 57 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations in the region in 2023 (\$63,201).

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Projected to have the most
annual total job openings

over 17,000

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B annual
openings

over 14,000

Computer and Mathematical Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs
Concentration

99%

Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A

23,495 Job Openings
\$98,921 Average Wage

Grade B

76,986 Job Openings
\$59,829 Average Wage

Grade C

29,424 Job Openings
\$47,312 Average Wage

Top Outlook Occupation Groups

Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	17,311	14,771	85%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	15,323	9,835	64%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	12,255	10,793	88%
Sales and Related Occupations	12,227	7,396	60%
Healthcare Support Occupations	10,824	10,155	94%
Management Occupations	7,854	7,330	93%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	7,376	6,662	90%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	6,977	6,686	96%
Production Occupations	6,304	1,162	18%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	6,228	4,135	66%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	5,433	5,123	94%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	5,292	1,445	27%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	4,632	3,694	80%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	4,001	2,817	70%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	3,249	3,203	99%

St. Louis Region Top Grade Jobs

Now Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B+	Home Health and Personal Care Aides 🔥	6,697	15.7%	\$29,095
B+	Stockers and Order Fillers 🔥	4,108	14.1%	\$39,838
B	Retail Salespersons 🔥	3,298	-0.9%	\$36,347
B	Waiters and Waitresses 🔥	3,136	2.1%	\$37,960
B	Customer Service Representatives 🔥	3,084	-3.5%	\$45,082
B	Fast Food and Counter Workers 🔥	2,944	7.5%	\$30,446
B	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners 🔥	2,633	5.0%	\$34,510
B	Office Clerks, General	2,569	-2.8%	\$45,352
B+	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand 🔥	2,331	7.0%	\$41,646
B	Bartenders 🔥	1,384	5.3%	\$38,255

Next Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	Cooks, Restaurant	2,319	25.9%	\$35,061
A	Nursing Assistants 🔥	1,776	14.7%	\$37,434
B+	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 🔥	1,586	6.1%	\$55,221
B+	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers 🔥	1,326	8.7%	\$41,133
B+	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General 🔥	1,156	9.9%	\$52,020
B	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks 🔥	979	-7.0%	\$50,082
B+	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products 🔥	951	0.7%	\$79,533
B	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers 🔥	931	-3.5%	\$69,617
A	Carpenters	873	8.4%	\$67,091
B	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers 🔥	715	-3.3%	\$51,743

Later Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	General and Operations Managers 🔥	3,142	4.3%	\$109,237
A+	Registered Nurses 🔥	2,802	23.3%	\$80,613
A	Accountants and Auditors 🔥	993	3.6%	\$82,634
A+	Software Developers 🔥	842	19.5%	\$112,311
A	Project Management Specialists 🔥	728	5.5%	\$98,472
A	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists 🔥	722	11.1%	\$79,360
A	Managers, All Other	712	4.4%	\$127,895
B+	Human Resources Specialists 🔥	657	6.1%	\$71,648
A	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	649	5.8%	\$87,150
B	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	646	-2.1%	\$62,107

🔥 Flame icon indicates occupations with the top 20 online job postings in 2023 within NNL (Now, Next, Later) categories.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

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